

Software Underground

Board Meeting

27 June 2023

Minutes are recorded in green.

Agenda

We will start at 15.00 UTC on Tuesday 27 June 2023. Quorum is 5.

Chair: The chair is Matt.

Regrets: Luisa, Dieter

Present: Matt, Rowan, Santi

Visiting:

Previous meeting

Previous meeting minutes are on GitHub:

<https://github.com/softwareunderground/swung-org/blob/main/board>

Remarks

- None

Board: changes and vote

Santi Soler, Maria Cecilia Bravo, and Matteo Nicolli have agreed to join our board. Huge thanks to those three, who I know will help keep Swung moving forwards.

Matt has set up a channel, **#swung-votes**, which has a bot that DM's anyone joining it with a message about membership. I think we will have to recreate this channel each year, because the message will (I think) only be shown upon joining.

Propose: launch a vote tomorrow (Tues) for ~~1-week~~ 72 hours, with the new board named for approval from the membership. (Not strictly required, since they can be elected by acclamation, but we've done votes in the past and I like the engagement.)

Remarks:

- Seems reasonable, but ppl can vote without responding to the DM
- Will open voting tomorrow, Wednesday

Support for BIRS

Santi Soler has written a proposal for receiving support for the BIRS meeting later this year:
swung-org/proposals/02_birs-financial-support.md

Propose: review the proposal, revert to Santi for clarification if required, and commit to a decision timeline or next action. I would like to give Santi a final decision by the end of this week.

Remarks:

- Is this targeted towards grad students? Do we have bounds on who this should be for?
 - Board audited the model proposal and candidate selection process.
- CAD would be best, so we need to change the template, which currently asks for USD or EUR.
 - <https://github.com/softwareunderground/swung-org/pull/5>
- Onus for 'reporting' or outcomes should be on the event, not the beneficiaries.
- Language to change to up to the budgeted amount.
- If approved, we will reimburse the participants directly, probably by bank transfer but Matt will check the OCF

Events

As detailed last time, these are still the upcoming events:

- Repro zoo, 26 & 27 August, see
<https://swung.slack.com/archives/C094GV18T/p1682508928998349>
- Transform: week of Monday 25 September
<https://swung.slack.com/archives/C094GV18T/p1682600402722009>

Update: Matt has created #transform-2023 and started inviting people and projects. Lots of positive offers so far, but we need a few more. Keep an eye out in the channels for things or people that might be a good fit.

Provisionally (to be confirmed):

- Curvenote / MyST Markdown (Franklin)
- Devito

- Gempy
- Fatiando
- Ert (data assimilation tool from Equinor)
- NLP (Filippo)
- Poetry / packaging
- Pycaret
- QGIS plugin development
- AI something something (Dan)
- Web apps (Julien)
- Delft Advanced Research Terra Simulator (Denis)
- empymod/emg3d (Dieter)
- Figures (Irene and Andy McD)

We'd like about 16 to 20 tutorials in total, so we're well on the way!

There will also be lightning talks.

Remarks:

- Any response from the Simpeg team?

Slack

We received notice from Slack that pricing (or rather, how to count 'active' participants) will change on 10 July, and they gave us a USD 700 credit to help manage the first 2 months of the change... which suggests that the current annual fee of about CAD 2240 may double or more.

Proposal: check the effect on the bill in August, ahead of our annual renewal on 25 August.

Remarks:

- Wait and see for the next few months.

Any other business

None.

Remarks:

-

Next meeting

None.

Remarks:

- **Matt to make new meetings**
- **See parking lot for some August activity, potentially before next meeting**

Parking lot / next meeting

These items will go into the next board meeting(s):

- Next time -- gather some data to have a proper conversation about chat platforms and the risk of staying on Slack.
- July/August: add new directors to:
 - Slack group
 - GitHub
 - Wave app
 - Google docs and calendar
 - Twitter and/or LinkedIn
 - Squarespace
- We still need to update the tech spreadsheet:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mNAGEgQNvfZem5zY38u9etn200aFWbE2zJLcMEdiL4Y/edit?usp=sharing>
- Check the status of receipt for Swung membership/donations (so it can potentially be deducted / charged to the employer like the membership of other professional societies).
- pyOpenSci is restarting and wants to work with SwUng. Leah Wasser is leading it and on SwUng.